

Abstract of the Disclosure

A method and device for use in conjunction with an encoder for encoding an audio signal into a plurality of parameters. Based on the behavior of the parameters, such as pitch, voicing, energy and spectral amplitude information of the audio signal, the audio  
5 signal can be segmented, so that the parameter update rate can be optimized. The parameters of the segmented audio signal are recorded in a storage medium or transmitted to a decoder so as to allow the decoder to reconstruct the audio signal based on the parameters indicative of the segment audio signals. For example, based on the pitch characteristic, the pitch contour can be approximated by a plurality of contour segments.

10 An adaptive downsampling method is used to update the parameters based on the contour segments so as to reduce the update rate. At the decoder, the parameters are updated at the original rate.